

Message Text

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40

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 FEA-02 AEC-11 DRC-01 /149 W

----- 089966

P R 201345Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3839

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0262

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS :TECH,IN,SF

SUBJ :PRESS REACTION TO INDIA'S NUCLEAR TESTING

1. NEWS OF INDIA'S NUCLEAR TEST CARRIED IN MORNING AND AFTER-
NOON NEWSPAPERS CAPE TOWN MAY 20 WITH ONLY EDITORIAL REACTION
OCCURRING IN ONE AFTERNOON PAPER.

2. DIE BURGER (AFRIKAANS) FEATURED PROMINENTLY ON FRONT PAGE
NEW DELHI ITEM HEADLINED, 'INDIA TESTED FIRST NUCLEAR BOMB
IN DESERT'. MORNING CAPE TIMES CARRIED INSIDE ARTICLE
DATELINES WASHINGTON ENTITLED, 'INDIAN N-BLAST GAIN FOR REDS'.

3. ARGUS(AFTERNOON) CARRIED INSIDE ARTICLES (1) DATELINED
NEW DELHI, 'A MOST BEAUTIFUL SIGHT' AND (2) DATELINED NEW YORK
ENTITLED, 'WILL INDIA JOIN THE NUCLEAR WEAPON CLUB?'. ARGUS
EDITORIAL ENTITLED, 'INDIA'S BOMB' SAID NEWS CAME AS NO GREAT
SURPRISE, GIVEN INDIA'S BRILLIANT RECORD IN PHYSICS RESEARCH.
BIG QUESTION WAS WHETHER SHE WOULD TAKE NEXT STEP
AND JOIN NUCLEAR CLUB. EDITORIAL CONCLUDED THAT EVEN TO TRY
TO MATCH CHINA WOULD INVOLVE INDIA IN AN ENORMOUS EXPENSE.
NEVERTHELESS THE NEW ADVANCE 'CANNOT BUT HAVE POLITICAL
REPERCUSSIONS; AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ARE ENOUGH AT LEAST TO
NUDGE THE WORLD'S STRATEGIC BALANCE'.

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GAMON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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